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The Oracle 02/10/1931

Gorham Normal School

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HAVE YOU
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THE ORACLE

DON'T FORGET
YOUR VALENTINE

VOL. 1

GORHAM NORMAL SCHOOL, GORHAM, MAINE, FEBRUARY 10, 1931

No. 2

GREEN AND WHITE LOSES TO FARMINGTON NORMAL 23--17

First game of annual series goes to great-
est rivals.

Gorham Normal's powerful basketball quintet lost a thriller to the steady clock-like precision of Farmington's Red and White in the local gymnasium, score 23-17.

Coming from behind in the first quarter the visitors, lead by Pillsbury and Ingalls, garnered a lead from which they were never headed, although always threatened by the hard fighting Green.

Erratic basket tossing and poor foul shooting is the real cause of the loss from a Gorham viewpoint, 53 attempted goals and 14 free shots being failures. The winners missed 43 throws for a goal and 9 foul attempts.

No player stood out prominently in the home team line-up, the squad as a whole showing mediocre play whenever the 'pinch' came. In the last period alone, not a score from the floor was made, the G. N. S. five missing 20 shots to their opponents' 3.

Summary:

G. N. S.	P	G	F	F. N. S.	P	G	F
D. Bagley	rf	3		Ingalls	lg	4	2
Baker	rf	1	2	Perkins	rg		
Leahy	lf	2		Pillsbury	c	2	2
Reeves	lf			Fenwick	lf	3	1
King	lf	1		Marble	lf		
Dumas	c			Webber	rf		
Verrill	rg						
L. ssard	rg		1				
W. Bagley	lg						
Anderson	lg						
F.N.S.	23			G.N.S.	17		

Referee: Renick.

THINK THIS OVER

The newspaper announces to its readers a contest in which everyone is to have a vote. There will be distributed to all with due notice a ballot on which will appear the following and similar items---

- Best looking girl.
- Best sport.
- Most athletic boy.
- Best dancer.
- Sunniest disposition.

You have an opinion. Put it on your ballot! The results should cause some excitement! They will be published in a future issue!

The Oracle welcomes the criticism of its readers and also any suggestion or contributions. Boxes have been left in the library for the purpose of receiving these. Leave yours to-day!

Miss Randall, in History Class:-

After the war on the Balkans, there was very little turkey left in Europe.

PRINCIPAL RUSSELL CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE FOR COURSE OF STUDY REVISION

CALENDAR February 5-20

Basketball Game with Farmington Normal School	Feb. 6
Basketball Game with Livermore Falls High School	Feb. 7
Kennebec Valley Club Meeting	Feb. 9
Massachusetts Club Meeting	Feb. 9
Glee Club Practice	Feb. 11-18
Orchestra Practice	Feb. 10-12-17-19
Faculty Study Club	Feb. 10
Washington & Hancock County Club Meeting	Feb. 10
Art Club Meeting	Feb. 10
Dramatic Club Meeting	Feb. 11
Girls Interclass Basketball Games	Feb. 10 12 17 19
Y. M. C. A. Meeting	Feb. 12-19
Y. W. C. A. Meeting	Feb. 12-19
Basketball Game with Salem Normal	Feb. 13
Outdoor Club Hike	Feb. 14
Basketball Game with Bridgewater Normal	Feb. 14
Y. W. C. A. Valentine Party	Feb. 14
Y. W. C. A. Cabinet Meeting	Feb. 19
Oxford County Club Meeting	Feb. 17

MRS. RUSSELL, IN A RECENT INTERVIEW, TELLS OF SON IN INDIA

A woman of sweet simplicity, gracious mien, and charming manner is Mrs. Walter E. Russell, the wife of the principal of our school. These qualities were very much accentuated when in a recent interview, Mrs. Russell was induced to talk in a very delightful, naive way, of her family which consists of three sons and two daughters.

Mrs. Russell, as she began to talk, implied that her children in their childhood had been no different than other children in matters of mischief and that their grammar school teachers in all probability had borne little love for them. However they all managed to pass successfully through the elementary and secondary schools and finally all graduated from various colleges. The three eldest, Earl, Willis, and Helen, are at present studying in pursuance of higher degrees, while the younger daughter, Celia, is a teacher in the high school of Windsor, Connecticut.

"Robert", said Mrs. Russell "is enjoying a career quite different from the other members of his family." He was graduated from Wesleyan University about three years ago, at the rather youthful age of twenty and at that time, became more or less interested in banking. He secured an opportunity to train with the National City Bank, in New York City, for a period of six months and later was transferred in the same concern to London, from which place he was sent to Bombay, India, to be employed in a branch bank of the National City bank in that city.

Continued on page four

FOUR MEMBERS OF G. N. S. FACULTY ARE HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS

Principal Russell will preside at a conference meeting on February 10 in Augusta of the various heads of committees working upon the revision of the two year course of study of the Maine State Normal Schools.

The purpose of this conference is to make definite plans for the subject matter to be included in the courses. For the plans, the committee members will use as a basis the so-called "professional diaries" which have been kept by every teacher in every course of the two year curriculum. The "professional diaries" contain course objectives, subject matter, methods, and material used, together with a bibliography with references, and time allotments for each unit of work.

At a previous meeting this fall at Farmington, some decisions were reached regarding subject to be taught, hours allowed, and credits to be given. Some of the changes noted, which will perhaps be of interest to the students, are: Educational Psychology, only in the first year, four hours with three credits; Introduction to teaching, the first year; Industrial and Household Arts, the second year; Sociology and Civics, the second year; and such changes in titles as The Teaching of Handwriting, The Teaching of Arithmetic, and The Teaching of History. These are but few of the revisions which will go into effect, at least tentatively, the beginning of the school year, 1931-1932.

Among those taking an active part in this revision work are Miss Nellie W. Jordan, chairman of Library Science and Penmanship; Miss Mary L. Hastings, Student Teaching; Miss Gertrude Stone, Educational Psychology; and Miss Miriam Andrews, Music.

The entire committee works in cooperation with Dr. Ned H. Dearbon of New York University, who is the expert advisor of the entire proceedings.

TWO GORHAM NORMAL SCHOOL BOYS KIDNAPPED

Right in Gorham Normal School it happened -- Ray Emery and Roger Jean were missing from 10:30 Saturday evening until late Sunday afternoon. Two frantic young ladies watched in vain for their heroes to show up and were on the verge of calling the police when the boys appeared weary, cold and hungry. Their tale is packed full of the most exciting incidents that G. N. S. has heard in a long time.

Continued on page four.

The Oracle

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OUR DUTY TO THE FOLKS AT HOME

When anyone goes away from home there is always left a place which no one else can fill. The place may be large or small in the minds and hearts of those left behind, but nevertheless a place. And when the absent one returns those who have remained at home always await with interest the experiment of putting him into the place he formerly occupied and observing how he fits. Consciously or unconsciously they note any changes, as they greet the home-comer with a wistful eye. What has he lost of the family traditions that he took away with him? What has he brought back from that other world in which he has been living? Has he increased his talent, or has he lost it, and obtained nothing in exchange? Or has he, by unhappy chance, made an exchange in which he got something of negative value?

Surrounded as we are by a world of values, the very act of living necessitates continual choosing among those values. It is not strange that sometimes values are confused, and that poor choices are made. Good living, in any sense, means a selection of things which have greater value than those rejected. Failure to select the greater value is the result of stupidity, ignorance, thoughtlessness, or a combination of these.

Stupidity is a misfortune. And poor choices resulting from low mentality, while they react to the detriment of the chooser, are not his fault. His mentality is his heritage. With the selective methods in use today, there is no reason for thinking that really stupid people

are getting into institutions of higher education.

Ignorance is excusable if it results from lack of opportunity to gain wisdom. If the folks at home let the young person go forth with no scale of values, he cannot be blamed for mistakes made in formulating such a scale from his own experiences. Poor choices, in such cases, are their fault not his.

Finally, the only reason for poor choices may be "I didn't think" When one leaves home, among other responsibilities comes that of thinking for one's self. The responsibility is a great one, for it reveals not only the individual's ability but also the extent and nature of the training received at home. All choices, then, which result from a paucity of thought, indicate a lack of training or poor training. Poor training result in poor choices. Poor choices result in a failure to grow in the way that intellectual and professional training should make one grow. And failure to grow means that when one returns home the place that was his is still a perfect fit. He has gained nothing which indicates a larger personality to those eager, admiring souls who have awaited his return.

What is your duty in this matter? They sent you forth, or allowed you to go forth, at some sacrifice perhaps, but in any case with the hope that a good choice had been made. Are you fulfilling their expectations? How will you fit when you return?

— Louis Burton Woodward

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

G.N.S. Of course we love it. It is the school which gives to us some of the most valuable parts of our training for life. We love it because it means two or more years of dormitory life with clubs, dances, games and work. Of course we came here to work and get things that will help us to earn our living in future years. Yet we delight in telling the world in general that we despise the food, the rules, and the routine. Somehow it's nice to be pitied, but it's all very inconsistent if you stop to think.

First of all, weren't you, my reader, really exalted when you found that your application had been accepted and that you were to be a member of this school? I was. Then do you realize that we pay no tuition to enter the school? That we pay nothing for the excellent instruction of our competent faculty? That our board is reduced to the almost unbelievable sum of \$.17 per meal? Seventeen cents that will scarcely buy us gum or candy or ice cream for refreshment after school? Yet we complain at the substantial and well cooked meals

Continued on page four column two

BRIEF INTERVIEWS REGARDING DANCES IN CENTER

"We trip the light fantastic -- with the accent on the trip."

-- Mary Gibbons

"In Corthell Hall we get our educational work; in Center, our social training."

-- "Angy" Brocato

"They should be bigger and better."

-- Lillian Gastonguay

"Dances are progressing -- by leaps and bounds."

-- Shirley Hartley

"Loads of fun, but a suggestion for improvement would be to let the boys stay a bit later."

-- "Pal" Dumas

"Like Scotch pajamas -- much too brief."

-- "Gin" Gillis

"Every student should make it a point to attend these socials."

-- Miss Wihry.

"As the water is to the sea, So the dances are to me."

-- John Bell.

"I believe you'll remember Center with it's associations much longer than you will many of the pearls of wisdom obtained in Corthell."

-- Miss Johnson.

"Like a soft boiled egg, three minutes and then you're done."

-- "Skinny" Smith.

"The marvel of the age -- our three piece orchestra -- piano, player, and stool."

-- Fred West.

"An opportunity to learn and practice social culture."

-- Miss Jordan.

"They have been the place of the start of many a Campus Romance."

-- "Gene" Parsons

"If it wasn't for the dances -- what would we do?"

-- "Peg" Magee

"A very excellent opportunity for school sociability."

-- "Tommy" Hoye

"Reminds me of a western movie."

-- Janet Tapley

"We have a faculty for dancing -- pardon me, a student body."

-- Eleanor McLeod

"A good opportunity for students to practice their piano lessons."

-- "Bill" Cragin

"The variety of dancers and pianists is fun for us all."

-- "Babe" Watson

"The ceiling should be higher, and the girls taller."

-- Richard Savage

ATHLETICS

ATHLETICS

The spirit of sport has pervaded every Age and every Clime since the day that Cain Kayoed Abel. The value and necessity of athletics is continually being brought to the front and no school can afford to overlook them. Every student has a chance opened for him in the study world, but in the realms of sport it is only for a limited few unless more interest is taken, greater enthusiasm shown, and a larger number of candidates come out for this spring's varsity Tennis and Baseball teams. Come on fellows and girls -- lets go!

TENNIS

The time has come to call out candidates for a G.N.S. varsity tennis team and elect a captain and manager in order that a suitable schedule can be arranged for an interesting and exciting competitive season.

Many fine players are here ready to compete on the courts under the Green and White this Spring. A strong team can be chosen from such an array as: Dionne (school champion for two years), Leahy, Parsons, Kelly, Brocato, B. Anderson, Littlefield, Johnson, Winslow, Saunders, Jean, Verrill, W. Bagley, and the Juniors: Corey Ransom, Provencal, D. Bagley, and Brawn.

If the play last Fall can be taken in consideration the girls also will be well represented as several excellent racqueteers were often seen in action on the school courts.

Come on! Let's go! We can make tennis a successful varsity sport. We have the material. Let's have the cooperation of both faculty and students.

JUNIORS AND SENIORS EACH WIN GAME IN SERIES.

The first game of the girls' inter-class basketball series resulted in a win for the Seniors by the close score of 17-14. In the second game, the Juniors walked off with a victory by a score of 30-18. In both contests Miller, captain of the senior team, and L. Sprowl for the Juniors, starred, each showing keen eyes for the basket.

SENIOR TEAM B CAPTAINED BY DESMOND DEFEATS TEAM A IN A ONE SIDED GAME.

Senior team B defeated team A by an overwhelming score of 39-8. Team A was considerably handicapped by the loss of two players via the foul route. Desmond and Warren played a brilliant game for the victors while Elwell and Lennon starred for the losers.

The Witham Gym boys are looking for recruits.

FOURTH GAME JANUARY 21.
CHEVERUS HIGH 37.
G.N.S. 28.

In a fast and desperately fought battle here Wednesday night, Cheverus emerged on the long end of a 37 to 28 score. The struggle was in full force from the beginning to the final gun, both teams giving their all for victory.

For Gorham Normal "Dud" Bagley and Captain Leahy were the outstanding stars. McCarthy was exceptionally brilliant for the Purple, while the fine offensive and defensive work of the team as a whole gave them the edge in the fray.

Statistics show that the local squad shot 6 successive fouls without a break while the visitors missed 8. In basket shooting the Green and White outfit failed on 57 of 68 throws against 47 misses in 63 attempts by the "Fighting Irish."

D. Bagley	rf	4	2	Wilson	lg	3	1
Leahy	lf	3	1	McCarthy	rg	4	3
Reeves	lf						
Baker	lf			Ridge	c	5	0
Dumas	c	2	3	Lee	lf	2	1
Verrill	rg			Murphy	rf	2	0
Lessard	rg						
W. Bagley	lg	2	0				
Gorham		28					
Cheverus		37					
Referee:	Howe.						

FIFTH GAME JANUARY 24
G. N. S. 40.

B. U. SCHOOL OF EDUCATION 21.

In a slow game featured by the play of Miller, visiting center, and Captain Leahy and D. Bagley of the Green & White, the G. N. S. basketeters came through with a victory over the hard fighting but outclassed quintet from B. U. 40-21.

The contest as a whole was uninteresting to watch, marred by many fumbles with the team-work lacking on both sides. The winners missed 16 foul shots against 9 such failures by the visitors. Of 5 throws for a goal the home team failed to garner 49 while the invaders from Boston lost 42 of 51 tosses.

D. Bagley	rf	9	3	Burns	lg		
Leahy	lf	1	2	Cramer	rg		
King	lf			Miller	c		
Dumas	c	3		Acorn	rf		
Verrill	rg			Dan	rf		
Baker	rg	1		Finney	lf		
Lessard	rg						
W. Bagley	lg	2	2				
Anderson	lg						

Gorham 40
B. U. 21
Referee: Barry

THE D3 AND D4 WINS GAME FROM D1 AND D2 BY THREE POINT MARGIN

The D3 and D4 girls' basketball team, captained by Miss Helen Small defeated the D1 and D2 in a hard fought game by the score of 22-19. Small and Wall starred for the winners while Emery and Day played well for the losers.

ALUMNI NOTES



WHO AM I?

EDGAR P. PAULSEN

Edgar P. Paulsen, who was graduated from the Gorham Normal School in the class of 1912 has been elected Vice President of the Continuation school section of the Pennsylvania State Education Association at the Williamsport Convention held in December.

Mr. Paulsen, whose home is in Westbrook, is the author of the Paulsen Reader, which has been adopted by the Harvard Summer School. This book is an intermediate book for Americanization work in grade schools.

He was graduated from the Westbrook High School, in 1908, Gorham Normal School, in 1912, from the Teacher's Training College of Columbia, and in 1919 he received his diploma from the University of Portiers.

After teaching two years in the schools of Scarborough, Maine, I came to Lowell Normal School as a third year student in the four year degree course for Music Supervisors. I will be graduated this year in that capacity. The State Normal School, here at Lowell is a fine school, but I still remember G. N. S. and will always love to think of the happy days I spent there.

-- Velma L. Parkhurst. '27

TEACHING

Albert Barlow - '30 - Oakland, Maine.

Samuel Brocato - '28 - Ellsworth, Maine.

Helen Whitcomb - '28 - Conn.

Eleanor Lyons - '30 - Millinocket, Maine.

Eleanor Hays - '30 - Abbott, Maine.

Eleanor Casey - '30 - St. Michael's Orphanage, Bangor, Maine.

Doris Blaisdell - '30 - Center Lovell, Maine.

Dorothy Orr - '30 - Orr's Island, Maine.

Louisa Tupper, - '30 - Turner, Maine

TID BITS FOR BOOKLOVERS

We are informed that the following books are available at the Baxter Memorial Library.

WHEN U-BOATS CAME TO AMERICA

This is a book dealing with six different U-Boat Raids, each with its toll of human lives and ship tonnage. The author has constructed the narrative from personal narratives, authentic press items, naval bulletins and reports; and official documents. It contains fourteen illustrations.

Author--- William Bell Clark.

THE SECOND TWENTY YEARS AT HULL-HOUSE

This is written by the founder of Hull-House, famous social settlement in Chicago. Miss Adams sets down her experiences and reflections along many lines. She writes of the woman's movement, effects of peace during five years of war, of contrasts in a post-war generation, and on many other subjects.

Author--- Jane Adams.

LETTERS OF HENRY ADAMS

This book is written by the author of "Henry Adams". The present volume covers his study in London during the Civil War, his instructorship at Harvard, his residence at Harvard and Washington. These letters range from a note of playful affection to acute criticism of men and books.

THE SECRET BIRD.

The author of this book is the chief founder of the Poetry Society of America, and has lectured on modern poetry in nearly every state in the Union, from Maine to California. She is now President of the Poetry Society of Florida, which she organized in 1925.

Author--- Jesse B. Rittenhouse.

NELSON W. ALDRICH

A new type of political history based almost entirely upon unpublished material, revealing hitherto secret phases of American politics, and presenting a group of our strongest and most varied personalities. Such as Aldrich, Allison, Hanna, Lodge, Roosevelt, Spooner, Taft.

Author--- Nathaniel Wright Stephenson.

Though not on the list of latest books by a margin of a few months, the following is recommended:

THE LAST FULL MEASURE.

This book is a novel of Lincoln's last days and of the Booth conspiracy with its terrible ending. Reveals a charming personal side of Lincoln's nature. In this book Mrs. Morrow has woven the facts of history into a novel of great power and tremendous human appeal.

Author--- Honore W. Morrow.

Son to father: What do people mean when they say that a person is college bred?
Father: The person has been on a four year loaf.

CHATTERINGS

A great mystery is yet unsolved. Where do the sofa pillows come from which are often found in front of Robie Hall in the early morning. A hint as to the solution. Roommates do quarrel--pillows are easy to throw--and windows will be open.

The new house committee has started its work. Miss Mary Jane Fortier who was elected president officiated at the regular meeting Wednesday night. One of the best features of belonging to this organization was manifest by those who attended the annual banquet Tuesday night. At this occasion a real spread and lots of fun made a most enjoyable party.

Continued from page two

which, altho they may not consist of the spice and daintiness that we fondly like, we would hate to miss.

Every one of us is getting a lot for nothing and we are glad to take it. Why should we constantly be running it down? The answer is---we shouldn't.

We have pride in our school but we don't show it often or often enough!

How about a new resolution to go into effect immediately---Forgetting the hate-the-food idea, or the glad-to-get-away speech and trying always to give G.N.S. the credit we owe, we will strive to make it more ideal by our very words, thoughts and actions.

Any signed comment or retaliation regarding this article may be sent to the editor of the news department!

Continued from page one

After leaving the Center Saturday night Ray and Roger decided to take a short but invigorating walk for reasons unknown--those dances do raise havoc in general--so we are told. When they were near the vicinity of West Gorham an auto stopped and friendly voices from within inquired if they did not choose to ride. Now this adventure in the situation appeals strongly to them but they realized all too soon that their companions had been breaking the 18th amendment--in a big way. Not until several miles had been covered did the boys come to the conclusion that walking was preferable, but they could not persuade their dizzy friends. Finally after what seemed hours, they decided they had had enough of the normal boys and dropped them near Fryeburg.

Now we are told that Emery and Jean spent the night playing checkers and looking at a musty old album with an old farmer who although he was hospitable had no spare beds.

The adventure ended a bit differently from most in the fact that the victims walked the 28 miles home instead of riding with rescuers but they did get the customary reception!

Continued from page one

Mrs. Russell told some very amusing and interesting facts which her son from time to time had written to her, about the country in which he is now situated.

"Of course," said Mrs. Russell, "it is an exceedingly warm climate, the city of Bombay being located a comparatively short distance from the equator." It is also a country of very wet and dry seasons. This necessarily means totally different living than that of this country. For one thing, clothing is of opposite weight and texture and of course a large wardrobe previously provided, is an essential for a foreigner who wishes to avoid the expense and inconvenience of shopping in Bombay.

In further describing the country of India, Mrs. Russell told of the caste system which is still observed very markedly. A person living in Bombay may obtain servants at little cost. Therefore it would seem as if his expenses would consequently be rather low in that direction, but when one finds that there must be one person for each kind of work to be done, it is rather a different story. It all amounts to the mere fact that a scrubwoman would probably lose caste if she did any other sort of work, and the same with the others. Of course such a caste system is only in evidence among the natives.

Mrs. Russell's son had recently sent her a magazine which is published annually in Bombay. In it were some beautiful reproductions of paintings, all having as their subjects the Eastern lands. It was amusing to discover in a beauty advertisement, not the exquisite, lily-white beauty of our magazine, but a bewitching "nut brown maiden."

In closing, Mrs. Russell said that she did not know whether or not she had said anything which would merit publication, but the readers of this article will agree that such vivid experiences of a family with whom we are all indirectly acquainted, are of utmost interest as well as value to us.

The food is very unlike that of America, being prepared by native cooks and therefore, almost wholly confined to native dishes. Mrs. Russell laughingly related that her son wrote that the native cooks prepared chicken in a most delicious and delectable way but it would seem so good to have a piece of rare, juicy beefsteak. You see, in India, the cow is a sacred animal, and consequently, beefsteak is an unheard of meat, even to an American located there, unless a steamer happens to dock in the harbor and one is fortunate enough to have a friend on it to invite him to dine aboard. However, one of the most distinct trials of a foreigner to bear, is the lack of fresh vegetables, due to the heavy rains. "Why, they even have to boil the lettuce!" exclaimed Mrs. Russell. In speaking of the heavy rains, Mrs. Russell recalled a time when fourteen inches of rain fell in Bombay in about twenty-three hours, and it was reported that business men went to their offices in bathing suits.